

## **FIREFIGHTER**

**General Statement of Duties:** Engages directly in firefighting and fire preventive activities to protect and safeguard lives and property; assists in maintenance and repair of fire stations and equipment; does related work as required.

**Distinguishing Features of the Class:** A firefighter is responsible for perform hazardous tasks under emergency conditions. Work involves close contact with toxic gases, explosive mixtures and radioactive materials. A portion of a firefighter's work consists of the performance of various duties in the maintenance of a fire station, and the preventive maintenance of trucks and equipment. A position in this class requires excellent physical condition for mechanical work. Orders of superiors must be executed promptly and efficiently. A firefighter must readily become familiar with modern firefighting and prevention methods and procedures after entrance on duty. The work requires strict adherence to departmental rules and regulations. Superiors make assignments of specific tasks and indicate methods and procedures to be followed. Work is performed under close supervision most of the time, but there are times when courses of action must be determined by the Firefighter. Each firefighter is expected to become a skilled pump operator, ladder man, salvage worker, emergency squad man and fire inspector.

### **Examples of Work:** (Illustrative Only)

- Makes openings in burning buildings for ventilation n entrance and chops holes in roofs and floors when necessary;
- Removes persons from burning building;
- Answers special duty calls including first aid, assists in storm damage or flooding, search and rescue operations and assistance in area disasters such as tornados and floods;
- Uses breathing apparatus and inhalators and first aid equipment, using modern first aid techniques such as closed chest heart massage and mouth to mouth breathing;
- Lays and connects hose lines and operates nozzles directing water streams;
- Operates portable chemical fire extinguisher;
- Performs salvage operations at scene of fire such as covering furniture with tarpaulin, mopping floors, and clearing debris;
- As required, drives and operates pumers, ladder truck and other equipment;
- Cleans, maintains and makes minor repair to firefighting equipment;
- Participates in periodic fire drills, individual and group training courses including firefighting theory and practices and first aid techniques;
- Makes periodic inspections of schools, theaters, hospitals, other public buildings, businesses, commercial and industrial establishments and dwellings for fire hazards and makes reports including recommendations or improvements;
- Checks fire hydrants for operating and physical condition;
- Performs a wide variety of routine tasks in connection with the maintenance of fire station quarters and grounds;
- Keeps records and makes reports.

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:** Aptitude for mechanical work, conscientiousness and dependability; strength, agility, coordination and ability to do prolonged manual and mechanical work under adverse conditions; a high degree of manipulative skill; cooperativeness, tactfulness and the ability to get along well with others; willingness to perform any task assigned; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions; ability to operate a motor vehicle; excellent physical condition.

**Acceptable Experience and Training:** Requires current EMT-B (or higher) certification from the State of Iowa. Certification by the National Registry as an EMT-B (or higher) may be substituted provided the candidate can obtain Iowa certification within 90 days of hire.